## Predictive analytics in Smart education - Educational analytics

# IDENTIFYING LEARNING OBSTACLES OF STUDENTS IN EDUCATION



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#### **Objective**

Identification of learning obstacles involves the process of identifying factors that hinder or impede a student's learning progress. These obstacles can be either academic or non-academic, and they can arise from various sources, such as personal, environmental, and institutional factors.

Academic obstacles may include challenges such as difficulty in understanding the subject matter, lack of interest or motivation, poor study skills, inadequate resources, and inadequate academic support. Non-academic obstacles, on the other hand, may include factors such as socio-economic status, family dynamics, health issues, transportations and other personal factors that may impact a student's learning experience.

Identification of learning obstacles is essential in addressing the underlying issues that affect a student's learning progress. Teachers, counselors, and administrators can use various tools and techniques to identify these obstacles, such as student assessments, surveys, and observations. Additionally, educators can use data analysis tools, such as Machine Learning algorithms, to identify patterns in student performance data and to predict potential obstacles that students may face.

Once the learning obstacles have been identified, educators can develop appropriate interventions to address them, such as providing additional support and resources, adapting teaching strategies, and providing targeted instruction to address specific academic or non-academic challenges.

#### **Origin and Motivation Towards the Study**

The origin of predicting learning obstacles in education can be traced back to the early days of educational psychology when we began to study the factors that influence learning outcomes. Over time, this research has evolved to include a range of factors, such as cognitive processes, motivational factors, and environmental factors, all of which can impact a student's ability to learn.

The motivation behind predicting learning obstacles in education is to identify potential barriers to learning and provide appropriate interventions to support students in overcoming these challenges. The aim is to ensure that all students, regardless of their socio-economic background or academic abilities, have equal opportunities to succeed in their academic journey.

The motivation for predicting learning obstacles has also been driven by the increasing availability of educational data and technological advancements, such as Machine Learning algorithms, which can help educators identify patterns in data to predict potential obstacles that students may face. By leveraging these tools, educators can develop targeted interventions to support students who may be at risk of facing academic or non-academic obstacles.

Moreover, predicting learning obstacles has become increasingly important due to the changing nature of education. In recent years, there has been a shift towards personalized and adaptive learning, where education is tailored to individual student needs. By predicting learning obstacles, educators can better understand individual student needs and provide personalized support to help them overcome challenges and achieve academic success.

Another motivation for predicting learning obstacles is to reduce dropout rates and improve educational outcomes. Dropout rates are a major concern in education, particularly among underrepresented groups such as low-income students and students from minority backgrounds. By predicting learning obstacles and providing appropriate support, educators can help to reduce dropout rates and improve the academic outcomes of all students.

Thus, Predicting learning obstacles in education has its origins in the early days of educational psychology and has been motivated by a desire to ensure that all students have equal opportunities to succeed in their academic journey. With the increasing availability of educational data and technological advancements, predicting learning obstacles has become more feasible, and the insights gained from this process can help educators develop targeted interventions to support student needs and improve educational outcomes.

# Our Plan to Conduct Study On Identifying Learning Obstacles

#### Define the research question (Objective & Origin and Motivation Towards the Study):

The research question "identifying learning obstacles in education" seeks to explore and understand the various factors that can hinder or impede the learning process of students in educational settings. This research question aims to identify the different challenges or barriers that students may encounter while trying to learn, and how these obstacles can be addressed or mitigated to improve learning outcomes. Overall, the research question seeks to promote a better understanding of the complex factors that influence learning in educational settings and to inform the development of effective educational Learning Methods.

#### **Identify the data sources:**

The next step is to identify the data sources that will be used to conduct the analysis. These data sources can include academic records, attendance records, surveys, and other relevant data sources. It is essential to ensure that the data sources are reliable, valid, and relevant to the research question.

#### **Data cleaning and preparation:**

Once the data sources have been identified, the next step is to clean and prepare the data for analysis. This includes checking for missing data, outliers, and other data quality issues. Data cleaning and preparation are crucial to ensure that the analysis produces accurate and reliable results.

#### **ML** algorithm selection and Data analysis:

The next step is to analyze the data and select appropriate ML algorithms to identify learning obstacles. This may involve using various statistical techniques such as correlation analysis, regression analysis, and factor analysis to identify significant variables.

Additionally, ML algorithms such as Decision Trees, Random Forests, and Neural Networks can be used to develop predictive models to identify students who are at risk of facing obstacles.

**Decision Trees:** Decision Trees can be used to identify the most significant factors that contribute to learning obstacles. The algorithm works by dividing the data into smaller subsets based on the most significant variables. The parameters for Decision Trees include the maximum depth of the tree, the minimum number of samples required to split a node, and the criterion used to measure the quality of a split.

**Random Forests:** Random Forests can be used to develop predictive models to identify students who are at risk of facing obstacles. The algorithm works by creating multiple Decision Trees and combining their predictions to produce a final prediction. The parameters for Random Forests include the number of trees in the forest, the maximum depth of the trees, and the criterion used to measure the quality of a split.

**Neural Networks**: Neural Networks can be used to develop more complex predictive models to identify learning obstacles. The algorithm works by creating a network of interconnected nodes that can learn from the data. The parameters for Neural Networks include the number of hidden layers in the network, the number of nodes in each layer, and the activation functions used in the network.

#### **Interpretation and reporting:**

Once the analysis is complete, the next step is to interpret the results and report the findings. The interpretation should be done in a way that is understandable and actionable for educators and administrators. This may include developing visualizations, dashboards, and reports to communicate the findings.

#### **Implementation of interventions:**

The final step is to implement interventions based on the findings of the analysis. These interventions may include providing additional academic support, improving teaching strategies, or addressing non-academic barriers to learning.